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SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR
1957



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

1954

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
PHYSICS DEPARTMENT
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. Rudkin, J.P.	(Chairman of the Council)
Councillor D.G. Parr	(Chairman of the Committee to 22 - 10 - 57)
Councillor G. Dawson	(Chairman of the Committee from 22 - 10 - 57)
Councillor N.H. Emmence	
Councillor A. Buttler	
Councillor J.T. Parratt	
Councillor E.A. Romney	
Councillor F. Navesey	(from 22 - 10 - 57)

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John W. Scholey, M.B., Ch. B.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

T. E. Dagwell, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary
Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health in Sanitary
Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT.

A. V. Barraclough

Certificate of the Institute of Housing.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

J. Foster

The Surgery,
Northgate,
Sleaford.

30th May, 1959.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1958.

As you will see from the statistics the health of the community has been satisfactory and compares well with the rest of the country.

There was a fairly widespread Influenza epidemic in the town which affected many families but fortunately the effects were not particularly severe in the majority of cases.

A major step forward came with the arrival of limited supplies of Poliomyelitis Vaccine and a ~~start~~ was made in the immunisation campaign. I am pleased to say this has proceeded rapidly as supplies became more abundant.

The other services dealt with by your health department have all proceeded satisfactorily and I would like to record my thanks to the staff for their efforts.

In conclusion I would like to thank all members of the Council for their help in my endeavour.

JOHN W. SCHOLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.	4,549
Population - 1951 Census.	7,282
- Registrar General's Estimate, 30/6/57.	7,460
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book.	2,391
Number of new houses completed during the year.	16
Rateable value as at 1st October, 1957.	£94,183
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£372

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	57	44	101
	Illegitimate	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
		60	45	105
Still Births	Legitimate	2	-	2
	Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Birth Rates</u>			<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.			15.24	14.34
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.			15.24	14.63
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales.)			15.70	16.10
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births.				18.69
<u>DEATHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Deaths		65	81	146
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.			21.25	19.57
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.			12.11	11.35
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales.)			11.70	11.50
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Deaths - Legitimate		1	1	2
- Illegitimate		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		1	1	2
			<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 live births.			36.04	19.04
Death Rate per 1,000 live births. (England and Wales.)			23.80	23.00

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	-	-	-
Other Tuberculosis.	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Measles.	-	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus.	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	4	8	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	-	-
Diabetes.	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.	3	10	13
Coronary Disease, angina.	18	8	26
Hyper-tension with heart disease.	2	2	4
Other heart disease.	9	26	35
Other circulatory disease.	3	-	3
Influenza.	1	2	3
Pneumonia.	3	5	8
Bronchitis.	2	1	3
Other diseases of the respiratory system.	2	-	2
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum.	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	-	-
Hypho-plasia of prostate.	3	-	3
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.	-	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases.	8	5	13
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1
All other accidents.	2	3	5
Suicide.	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
<hr/>			
T O T A L	65	81	146

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Infectious Disease Hospitals.

No infectious disease hospital is provided in the Urban District and arrangements are made as necessary for cases requiring hospital treatment to be admitted into hospitals in the adjoining areas.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr. W.W.Taylor, 1, Regent Street, Nottingham, when both chemical and bacteriological examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 348 cases of infectious disease were notified.

Measles	307
Whooping Cough	30
Scarlet Fever	3
Tuberculosis	3
Erysipelas	2
Encephalitis	1
Poliomyelitis	1

Food Poisoning

One case of food poisoning was notified during 1957. No definite source of infection was ascertained although the indications were that it may have been cooked meat.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948/51

Section 47.

No action under this section was found to be necessary during the year.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

1957

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my tenth Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

The work of the department during the year has continued with the emphasis on Housing and Food Hygiene. Not as much of the housing programme was dealt with as is necessary to maintain the progress indicated by the Council's decision to deal with their housing programme in 7 years. The intention to develop the Boston Road Estate which will provide for 88 houses will enable sufficient unfit houses to be dealt with to, I hope, bring progress up to date.

The last houses on the Gypsy Lane Estate became available for letting during the year, the majority of the houses being allocated to those on the waiting list.

I have once again had little trouble with the food traders of the town and generally speaking there is a continued desire to serve the public in a hygienic manner. Nevertheless there remains the need for constant improvement.

I have to thank the Council for their support and my fellow Officers, in particular those in my own department for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

T.E. Dagwell,

Public Health Inspector & Housing Officer.

THE SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

HOUSING

Council Housing.

During 1957 the Gypsy Lane Estate was completed by the erection of 25 houses in Rhodes Avenue. There were in addition available for letting 13 houses which became vacant on existing Estates. There were therefore 38 families rehoused during the year. Of these 9 were from unfit houses.

The Council considered sites for the erection of further Council Houses and proceeded to negotiate for the purchase of land on Boston Road. By the end of the year negotiations were at an advanced stage and a provisional layout had been agreed by the Council. This provisional layout provided for an increased proportion of bungalows.

Maintenance of the Council's houses has proceeded satisfactorily. The fact that the bricklayer was unable to cope with all the work that falls to this trade was again overcome by employing outside contractors and at the end of the year no long outstanding work was on hand. The policy of carrying out repairs, the degree of which proved to be improvements has continued and a further number of such items as damp floors have been dealt with. It is gratifying to remind the Council that the cost of carrying out repairs is still less than the income received from tenants repairs fund contributions. Since in half of the houses this is the statutory minimum of £8, this would appear to be a most satisfactory position.

Private Housing.

Only two private houses were completed during 1957. The Council has in mind making available frontage land in Boston Road for private building.

Unfit Housing.

Nothing like as much progress was made during the year in dealing with unfit houses as would seem desirable. A number of factors contributed to this, not the least of which is the fact that the Council Housing side of my duties has increased, and that there will inevitably be a long period between the completion of the Gypsy Lane Estate and the first houses becoming available on Boston Road. It has always been my policy to endeavour to tie up as nearly as possible the date of confirmation of Clearance Orders with the availability of new houses for the families displaced.

Nevertheless during the year numbers 1 - 9 Claremont Place were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, number 1 being demolished and an undertaking accepted with regard to the future of the remainder. In addition Feneley's Holding an unoccupied house was demolished. A Demolition Order was made in respect of No. 6, Hill's Court and an undertaking as to the use of the Hermitage, West Banks for storage purposes only was received. Licences to occupy 10, 11, 12, Church Lane houses included in a pre-war Clearance Order expired in July, two of the tenants were rehoused by the end of the year, the third awaited a suitable house, their demolition will take place early in 1958.

Improvement Grants.

11 applications for Improvement Grants were approved during the year. Grants totalling £1,032 - 10 - 0 were made.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts. | 171 |
| | Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 207 |
| (b) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. | 16 |
| (c) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 16 |
| (d) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for habitation. | 28 |

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their Officers.	26
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. | |
| | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | NIL |
| | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices. | |
| | (i) By owners. | NIL |
| | (ii) By local authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (b) | Proceedings under Public Health Acts. | |
| | (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | NIL |
| | (ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices. | |
| | (a) By owners | NIL |
| | (b) By local authority in default of owners. | NIL |
| (c) | Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936. | |
| | (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | 2 |
| | (ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. | 2 |

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. NIL

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit. NIL

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Public Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.

The Council has continued to maintain two slaughterhouses as Public Slaughterhouses. The facilities provided for the Butchers using the premises have been adequate in spite of staffing difficulties. This difficulty was being overcome by the end of the year.

Since no indication of the Government's policy with regard to the future of slaughterhouses or the standards which will be required were received during the year, no progress was possible with regard to a review of slaughterhouse facilities.

It has again been possible to carry out one hundred per cent meat inspection in spite of continued slaughtering at late hours especially on Mondays, a practice which it seems impossible to avoid.

The amount of meat condemned during the year was 5 tons 5 cwt. 1 st. This was about the same as the previous year. There was an increase in the percentage of cattle affected by Cysticercosis the figure being 2.43%. There continues to be a fall in the overall number of cattle affected by Tuberculosis. The principal reasons for condemnation are stated hereunder:-

<u>BEASTS.</u>			<u>lbs.</u>
4	Beasts and all organs.	Generalised Tuberculosis	2,910.
1	Beast and all organs.	Johne's Disease	352.
1	Beast and all organs.	Emaciation and Actinomycosis	416.
1	Beast and all organs.	Traumatic Peritonitis	406.
	Beef and beast organs.	Various conditions and diseases	5,170.

CALVES.

1	Calf and all organs	Immature	35.
	Veal and calf organs	Various conditions and diseases	5.

<u>PIGS.</u>			<u>lbs.</u>
1	Pig and all organs.	Generalised Tuberculosis	237.
4	Pigs and all organs.	Pneumonia, Peritonitis and other conditions accompanied by fever	234.
2	Pigs and all organs.	Dropsy and Dropsy and Emaciation	226.
1	Pig and all organs.	Swine Erysipelas	56.
3	Pigs and all organs.	Septicaemia	219.
1	Pig and all organs.	Uraemia	76.
	Pork and Pig organs.	Various conditions and diseases	1,127.

SHEEP.

1	Sheep and all organs.	Oedema	104.
1	Sheep and all organs.	Moribund	48.
1	Sheep and all organs.	Emaciation	55.
	Mutton and sheep organs.	Various conditions and diseases	113.

<u>1957</u>	CATTLE.	CALVES.	SHEEP & LAMBS.	PIGS.
Number Killed and inspected.	854	6	2590	2246
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis.</u>	5	1	3	9
Whole carcasses condemned.				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	211	1	23	152
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	25.64	-	1.00	7.17
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	4	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	55	-	-	55
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	6.91	-	-	2.49
<u>Cysticercosis</u>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	20	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	19	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-
Percentage of beast's inspected affected with Cysticercosis.	2.34	-	-	-

Other Foods.

The following premises are registered in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The manufacture of sausage, etc.	10
The manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream.	2
Storage and sale only of ice cream.	18

Food premises are classified as under:-

Grocers.	12
Green Grocers.	9

General Stores.	8
Butchers.	11
Sweets and Confectionery.	9
Bakehouses.	4
Restaurants.	8
Residential Hotels.	5
Other Licenced Premises.	20
	—
	86
	—

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at
1 - 1 - 57:-

Distributors.	1
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Dealer's licences issued in respect of designated milk
at 1 - 1 - 57 were:-

Tuberculin Tested	1
Pasteurised	1
Sterilised	1

Samples of milk and cream taken have in all cases proved satisfactory.

Ice Cream.

The number of manufacturers of ice cream is now two. Both premises, one of which is cold mix, were frequently inspected during the season of production.

There are still 18 premises registered for the storage and sale only.

Samples taken showed the ice cream to be of satisfactory bacterial quality.

Other Foods Condemned.

The undermentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have been examined and found to be unfit for food.

18lbs of tinned Tomatoes.	Blown and punctured.
24lbs of tinned Corned Beef.	Punctured, Unsound.
17lbs of Brazil nut Milk Chocolate.	Contaminated by mice.
15. 12oz. boxes of Prunes.	Unsound.
4 tins of Pork Luncheon Meat.	Damaged, Unsound.
3. 10lb. tins of Peach Pulp.	Blown, Damaged tin.
34lbs of tinned ox tongue.	Blown, Unsound, leaking tins.
2. 14lb boxes of Haddock Fillets.	Unsound.
1. 6lb tin of Baked Beans.	Blown.
2. tins of Pears.	Blown.
6ozs of Sweets.	Contaminated.

Other foods are disposed of by burying in the Council's refuse tip after mutilation. Amounts of such food are usually quite small. In certain cases, where food is condemned at institutions, destruction is by burning.

WATER SUPPLY

The proposed water main extension to Holdingham reached the stage of tenders having been accepted towards the end of the year. The proposal finally adopted was for 4" main to be laid throughout the distance of the extension. No other alterations in the water service of the area were considered during the year.

The source of the Council's supply has been adequate and of a good quality, as the results of chemical and bacteriological analysis which follow show.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The second stage of the new sewage disposal works was completed early in the year. It was fairly apparent that the amount of sewage arriving at the works as a dry weather flow was far in excess of the original estimate. This is largely attributed to infiltration. The result has been difficulty in coping with dry weather flows at the works. Some modifications eased this situation.

It was also found that difficulties arose in drying sludge, again some modification of the beds slightly improved the position, but, it was apparent that the provision made could never be entirely satisfactory to cope with the problem. The Council's Consulting Engineer has therefore recommended the extension of the present sludge drying beds. Modification of the sludge pumping arrangements from the humus tanks was also found to be necessary. The absence of detritus chambers has led to difficulty in de-sludging the balancing tank and modification by the provision of a grit channel in this tank was also recommended by the Council's Consultants.

The laying of the new sewer from the Sleaford Wood section was completed during the year.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

There has been no change in the Refuse Disposal Services during the year.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The problem of itinerant caravan dwellers who are largely employed as dealers continued during the year. In an effort to minimize the trouble, licences were issued to 7 persons to station vans on sites in the area during the year. Whilst this may not be the most satisfactory way of dealing with the problem it does serve to ensure that vans occupy reasonable sites with at least a minimum of facilities and with some control over their site hygiene.

Discussions were informally held with the owner of land adjoining Claremont Place, regarding the provision of a caravan site on what originally were the gardens to Claremont Place. Provisional approval was given to proposals submitted for the development of the land as a caravan site for residential and casual use.

Date of Sample.

PER MILLION PARTS

27th February, 195

1st November, 1957

Total Solids dried at 180°C
Suspended Matter
Chlorides as Chlorine
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite
Free and Saline Ammonia
Albuminoid Ammonia
Temporary Hardness
Permanent Hardness
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F
from N/80 KMnO4
pH value
Appearance
Odour
Taste & Colour
Heavy Metals
Free Chlorine

Low level
Reservoir.

Low level
Reservoir.

380.00
Absent
31.95
3.37
0.001
0.020
0.016
205.00
120.00

450.00
Absent
31.95
4.25
Absent
0.012
0.028
200.00
150.00

0.00
7.20

0.12
7.00

Clear & Bright

Clear & Bright

None
Normal
Absent
Absent

None
Normal
Absent
Absent

No. of colonies developing per ml.
on agar at 21°C in 72 hrs.

3

1

No. of colonies developing per ml.
on agar at 37°C in 24 hrs.

0

0

No. of colonies developing per ml.
on agar at 37°C in 48 hrs.

2

6

Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls.
at 37°C in 48 hrs.

0

0

Faecal coli count per 100 mls.
at 44°C in 48 hrs.

0

0

Bacillus coli Presumptive per 100 mls.

Absent

Absent

RODENT CONTROL

The Council has continued to employ the Rodent Operator whose services are available full time if necessary. Since the amount of work fluctuates, the Operator carries out other duties in the Department. Since prompt attention can be given to all infestations, it is pleasing to record that no major infestations were found during the year. The number of minor infestations remains fairly static and it seems unlikely that this number will ever greatly be reduced. This in itself is sufficient evidence to support the need for vigilance in regard to Rodent Control. Clearly neglect of these small infestations would bring about a rapid increase in the rat population of the district.

The Council's sewers received two treatments, the degree of infestation being apparently about average and located in the same areas as in previous years.

Details of the work carried out by the Rodent Operator for the 12 months ending March 31st, 1958 are as follows:-

			<u>1957/58</u>
Total number of inspections.			1,653
Infestations found.	Rats.	Major infestations.	Nil
		Minor infestations.	250
	Mice.	Major infestations.	Nil
		Minor infestations.	13
			<hr/>
			263
			<hr/>
Number of treatments involved.			296

